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DURATION OF THE WAR.

During the past few weeks many have heard, or imagined they heard, the rustle of the wings of the dove of peace, notwithstanding the gloomy predictions of others that another winter is to pass before the present war shall have been brought to a close. While in no way optimistic, we see straws occasionally which are good omens.

Dispatches from different European capitals have occasionally given rise to hopes that the warring nations are not averse to certain suggestions on peace lines, and although these have been immediately denied they have left gleams of hope in their wake.

It is now generally believed that the action of the Balkan states will tend considerably to bringing the contest to a close. The Allies and Germany are working hard on these states, and should they cast their fortunes with one or the other momentous results would undoubtedly follow. According to pro-German sources, the Teutons are gaining favor with the Balkan states, and all the allies can hope for is to keep them in the neutral ranks.

It is firmly believed in some quarters that by the advent of next Christmas the angelic anthem, "Peace on earth, good will to men," will be a reality.

A dispatch from Rome says: "It is apparent that a much more optimistic feeling over the prospects for peace prevails at the Vatican. Two weeks ago the situation appeared hopeless, but now it is whispered unofficially that the Pope has hopes that some arrangement whereby the world war may be ended by Christmas is possible. The initiative upon which the new optimism is founded appears to have come from Germany, which, unvanquished and still powerful enough indefinitely to continue the war, finds herself in a situation where she can hold out the olive branch without being considered suppliant. Peace terms already hinted of do not contemplate that Germany will reap any territorial advantage, or increase her powers—the basis will be safeguarding of all her liberties and equal terms with all other nations."

The Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung of Berlin, denies that Germany proposes peace to Russia through the King of Denmark and adds this significant language:

"Certainly Germany will not refuse sensible proposals for peace when they are submitted, but the time for Germany to make proposals for peace will be when Germany's enemies are ready to acknowledge that their bellicose undertakings have failed."

MEXICAN SITUATION.

The most pronounced pacifists in the United States are realizing at last that diplomacy has been exhausted in attempts to bring order out of chaos in Mexico. The leaders of the different factions in that country pay no attention to peaceable suggestions from the United States, and outlawry has been brought into our own domains. It seems that the time has come when the bull must be taken by the horns.

The Baltimore Sun this morning summed up the situation as follows: "That the President's return to Washington is coincident with the rapid progress of the Mexican situation toward a danger point is too obvious to need comment. The Administration is still, very properly, seeking a way out by conciliation and through the voluntary action of the Mexican leaders themselves. And it has manifested its sincerity and good faith by securing the concurrence of the South American powers in the appeal to the patriotism of the various Mexican factions. Nevertheless, we are quite frank to say that it seems idle to expect any practical results from this appeal, unless backed up by positive

action. Carranza has already unmistakably signified his determination not to pay any attention to it, and if he will not agree to the joint suggestions made, the scheme of peaceable and voluntary readjustment must necessarily fail. We must, in fact, at once take into consideration what our next step shall be in the almost certain event of such failure.

"If forcible intervention should be necessary, it is quite likely that we shall go into Mexico with a definite program. It is entirely possible that events may move so rapidly as to force our hands and compel us to take decisive action earlier than we may desire. We are already putting ourselves in a warlike attitude, and the temper shown by Carranza and the outbreaks and disorders on the Texas border may precipitate armed intervention at any moment. The President is putting down all the brakes at his command and going as slow as he can, but the option of the road to peace or war may soon be snatched out of his hands by circumstances which he cannot control.

"As we stand facing this growing probability we have the consolation of knowing that we have done everything in our power to prevent such a consummation. We have afforded the Mexican revolutionists every possible chance to save Mexico themselves. If we are obliged to go in and do what they should do without compulsion, they have nobody to blame but themselves. But it seems pretty certain that we will have to do it, that the time for soft words has passed, and that the time for action is near at hand."

ROYAL WEALTH.

Eighteen months ago, when the special military tax was levied, the Kaiser had to pay \$965,000, his fortune being estimated at about \$35,000,000; so he is far removed from poverty, even though \$25,000,000 have been lost through the war. The origin of the Hohenzollern fortune is known to be the accumulations amassed by Frederick William III, the present ruler's great-grandfather, which totaled at least \$5,000,000 so far back as 1815. These were bequeathed to William I as "crown treasure," and under the specific condition that half the amount should never be spent unless Prussia was in a desperate condition.

During the war between Russia and Japan it was stated that the Czar receives \$8,000,000 annually for being "head of all the Russias," and, in addition, he owns the most productive lands in the realm and has other sources of income which add about \$8,000,000 more to his yearly receipts.

VIRGINIA NEWS

A party of capitalists and business men of Richmond are cruising in the lower Rappahannock River on the Commodore Maury, the flag ship of the Virginia Commission of Fisheries, in the interest of the proposed railroad to West Point and Urbana.

Considerable interest is attached to the presence off the Virginia Capes of a British war vessel. It is believed that the cruiser is in waiting to act as a convoy to some ship carrying munitions of war or horses for the use of the allied armies in Europe.

A State official, it became known in Richmond yesterday, has been asked by a Pennsylvania firm to contract with any steel concern here for the manufacture of 1,000,000 Mauser rifles. The price offered was \$25,000,000. For whom the rifles are wanted is not disclosed. Because of the lack of the necessary machinery, no firm has been found to accept the contract.

The Washington-Southern Railway Company is having the north end of the bridge over Aquia creek rebuilt of steel from the draw span inshore. When done the southern end of the bridge will receive the same attention. Recently the Richmond-Washington line had a new steel bridge built across Occoquan Creek, and the old wooden structure was turned over to the county of Prince William, and is being converted into a wagon bridge.

George W. La Due, Jr., aged 23, and Joseph Willis Robey, 9 years old, were killed by lightning during a heavy storm in Fairfax county a few days ago. They were at work for J. L. Harrison on the old Fleming Ford farm, near Clifton, and noticing the approaching storm, made preparation to leave. They stopped to assist Harrison to pull some weeds for his hogs when the tree near which they were standing was struck by lightning. Young La Due about the same moment, touched a large

saw that was lying against the tree. Harrison was stunned, and when he regained consciousness he found that his companions had been killed.

Dr. Otis Marshall was in what came close to being a fatal accident when his automobile turned turtle on the Brandy Road near Culpeper, Wednesday night, catching him under it and inflicting serious injuries. The accident occurred when Dr. Marshall, who was returning to his home in Culpeper, after making his round of professional visits, attempted to put up the windshield.

Lieutenant Governor J. Taylor Ellyson, Attorney General John Garland Pollard, and Richard E. Byrd, candidates for Governor, will make addresses Labor Day at Buckroe Beach where the Central Labor Union of Newport News will hold its annual celebration. Westmoreland Davis, the fourth candidate for Governor, has been invited to speak at the same time, and it is understood that he will be on hand, but his acceptance has not been received.

A bold attempt to wreck Chesapeake and Ohio passenger train No. 4, known as the Cincinnati-Washington special, due through at Staunton at 11:12 o'clock yesterday, was perpetrated by unknown parties, who ripped up a section of the rails about a mile west of Bells Valley, a small station eight miles west of Staunton. R. E. Davidson, a mountaineer, residing in that neighborhood, found the broken rail, and brought the fast train to a stop as it rushed towards the open stretch of track. Two previous attempts to wreck passenger trains have been made during the past year near the same point.

O. B. Nichols, a foreman at the Du Pont works, and W. H. Bishop, a Du Pont electrician, were in Petersburg yesterday and stated that some 400 electrical workers employed at the Du Pont works at Hopewell went on strike yesterday and that the boilermakers, pipefitters and carpenters expect to strike today. A representative of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is expected to reach Petersburg from Wilmington, Del., to look after the interests of the union. Mr. Nichols stated the electrical workers are striking for an eight-hour day, with a minimum wage of 60 cents an hour and recognition of the union. The minimum wage now paid the electrical workers, he said, is 35 cents an hour.

NEWS OF THE DAY

Former Policeman Samuel Saffer was arrested at Hopewell late yesterday afternoon, charged with accepting a bribe of \$35.

Jack Munroe, who once fought Jim Jeffries for the world's championship, lies dead somewhere in northern France or Belgium. Munroe had been fighting with the allies.

A Berlin telegram received states that in a bill voted today by the Federal Council for a supplementary Imperial budget for 1915 a new credit of 10,000,000,000 marks (\$2,500,000,000) was asked for.

The civil tribunal of the Seine has sequestered the property of the German millionaire, Herr Jelinek. This property, consisting for the most part of real estate in Paris and the Riviera, is worth about \$40,000,000.

A wireless dispatch received from Berlin says that French aviators dropped bombs on Zweibruecken and St. Ingbert, killing eight civilians and wounding several others. The property damage was small.

By a vote of 12 to 3, the Common Council of Richmond last night refused to censure Mayor George Ainslie, Chief of Police Louis Werner and members of the Police Department, as recommended by the joint police investigating committee.

Quartermaster Capt. George H. Knox, of the first aero squadron, U. S. A., was killed and Lieut. R. B. Sutton, his aid, probably fatally injured yesterday at Fort Sill, Okla., when an aeroplane in which they were flying fell 350 feet.

Members of unions employed in breweries, saloons, hotels and restaurants in Montana, have assessed themselves 25 cents monthly for a fund to fight prohibition in the State. The assessment will be collected until November, 1916, when the people are to vote on prohibition.

The program for the sixth annual convention of the Virginia Court Clerks' Association has just been announced by Jesse N. Bosang, the secretary. The convention will be held in Pulaski on August 19 and 20 at the

county courthouse, and indications are there will be a large attendance.

A significant order of the day predicting a resumption by the Germans of a vigorous offensive in the west has been issued to the Teutonic armies in Flanders. An extract from this order is as follows: "Our work now is practically finished in the east and we are about to begin in the west. Peace is certain in October."

Churches in Arizona which use wines for sacramental purposes will not be allowed to renew supplies until suit is brought to test the state prohibition law on the point. The railroads will not accept for shipment into Arizona any beverages containing alcohol, no matter for what purpose such beverages were intended, until the law had been construed by proper judicial authorities.

Efforts to solve the mystery of the murder of Hazel Macklin, 16, whose body was found in a vault in Spring Brook park, near South Bend, Ind., on October 25, 1914, resulted in the arrest of Ellis N. Ebersole, 42, and his son, Newton Ebersole, 20, who are charged by the police with the crime. Hazel Macklin left her home in South Bend to answer an advertisement for a domestic on August 2, 1914. She was seen to leave an electric car near the Spring Brook park. Her body was found a month later.

The second romance of Mrs. Olive Klingman Lewis Studebaker it at an end. The former mill girl, who was married by her millionaire employer, George Lewis, and who, after his death, became the bride of Peter E. Studebaker, scion of the famous South Bend, Ind., family, has sued for divorce. The bill of particular charges non-support and recites that for two years she had to support herself from her own income.

The Dupont Powder Company has, it is said, just received an order, the largest in the history of the company, for between 65,000,000 and 70,000,000 pounds of powder for the allies. While the order comes from the allies through the usual channels, it is understood that the greater portion of the powder is ultimately intended for use by Russia, in view of the fact that representatives of the czar recently visited the plant. Italian representatives also have been in Wilmington, Del.

The much discussed reports of graft in Washington's Police Department resulted yesterday in the grand jury indictments of former Detective Raymond O. Kleindienst and Policeman Warren E. Grimes on charges of taking \$4 from a gambler for the latter's protection. It is charged that the officers helped the gambler escape prosecution and the money paid them was their reward. Kleindienst is now working for a powder company at Wilmington, Del., and Grimes gave bond.

Indications that an effort will be made by organized manufacturing interests, as represented by the National Metal Trades Association, to resist the demands of the machinists' union for a general eight-hour work day developed in New York yesterday, when the Garvin Machine Company opened its doors and called on its men to work under former conditions as to hours and pay. The Garvin plant, which employs about 1,500 men, closed down on August 2, after it had refused the demands of the 500 machinists in its employ for the eight-hour day.

William Barnes, Jr., warned the constitutional convention in Albany yesterday that if a stop was not put to what he termed "socialistic" or class legislation there would be established in this country an autocratic state similar to that of Germany, "denying utterly the American theory of 'equality.'" Incidentally, the Republican leader compared Theodore Roosevelt to Bismarck, and asserted that the Progressive party had inaugurated and was advocating the identical policy which had caused the Socialist party in Germany to become the largest single group in the Reichstag.

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The largest stock of Men's, Ladies', Boys', Misses' and Children's foot-wear in the City, recently purchased from the estate of the late C. B. Marshall, to be offered at greatly reduced prices.

Cut prices on all, and especial cut rates on several lines which are to be discontinued and broken lots. During this sale it will be our purpose to give you our utmost care and attention and strive to please.

At the present cut prices, however, the demand on the stock will undoubtedly be great, so would advise all to call early, before sizes are broken, at present we can unquestionably fit you.

Below We Quote Some of Our Sale Figures

Men's \$6.00 Low Shoes, now	\$3.95	500 pair Ladies Tan Oxford ties and Pumps, such as Queen Quality, and Red Cross, worth \$3.50 and \$4.00 for this sale at	\$1.95
Men's \$5.00 Low Shoes, now	\$3.25	Ladies Pat Leather Oxford and Pumps, fancy tops, \$3.50 and \$4.00 values, at this sale for	\$1.95
Men's \$4.00 Low Shoes, now	\$2.90	Ladies Red Cross High Shoes, mostly lace, worth \$4.00 \$4.50, some at \$5.00 all go at this sale for	\$2.75
Men's \$3.50 Low Shoes, now	\$2.45	Broken lot, Ladies High Shoes, worth up to \$4.00 go for	\$1.95
Men's \$6.00 High Shoes, this sale	\$4.85	Broken lot Ladies High Shoes, bottom and lace, worth up to \$3.00, at this sale for	\$1.95
Men's \$5.00 High Shoes, this sale	\$3.90	Broken lot Misses Shoes, worth up to \$2.00, for	95c
Men's \$4.00 High Shoes, this sale	\$3.25	Broken lot Misses Shoes, worth up to \$2.00, for	75c
Men's \$3. & \$3.50 High Shoes, this sale	\$2.65	All Ladies' Low Shoes, including Pumps, Colonials, Oxford ties, and Outing Shoes that were \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50 & \$5.00, go for the one price	\$2.75
Men's \$2.50 High Shoes, this sale	\$1.95	The above consist of the Famous Queen Quality, J. & T. Cousin and Linder Shoe Co. makes.	
Broken lots of Men's Shoes, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50 & \$5.00	\$1.95		
200 pairs of Boys' Oxford, the Famous Excelsior Shoe Company make, were \$3.50 & \$4.00, sizes 2 to 6, \$1.95			
Boys' \$3.50 High Shoes, at this sale	\$2.75		
Boys' \$3.00 High Shoes, at this sale	\$2.45		
Boys' \$2.50 High Shoes, at this sale	\$1.75		
Boys' \$1.75 & \$2.00 High Shoes, at this sale	\$1.35		
Broken lot of Odds and Ends of Boys shoes, were \$1.50 and \$2.00, for	95c		

MISSSES, CHILDRENS, and LADIES WHITE PUMPS GO AT COST.

Sale Starts SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST, 14th
422 King St. M.W. GAINES, Successor to
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Classified Ads

FOR SALE—FORD, 1914 Model first class condition fully equipped, driven only by owner buying new car. Quick sale \$295.00. Apply 1000 Oronoco street. 12-3t.

AUTOMOBILE FOR SALE—Hudson Touring Car. A bargain for \$350. Will demonstrate. Apply 304 King Street, Alex., Va. 12-3t.

WANTED—A small apartment on car line, near Washington. Moderate rent. Must be near good school. Address A this office. 11-3t.

FOR SALE—One sample piano Empire design. Rich mahogany case repeating action, guaranteed 25 years. Regular price, \$425.00. Walter D. Moses & Co. sale price \$295.00. 313 King St., Alexandria. A postal will bring all information.

LOST—Plain Gold Ring. Finder will please return it to Gazette Office. Reward of \$5 will be paid. 10-3t.

DAIRYMEN WANTED—Also general farm carpenter. Belmont Station, Hollin Hall Farm, Va.

Lady employed in Washington desires to board in private family in Rosemont. Permanent. References. Address D. V. S. Care Gazette. 4-tf.

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